# Federal Council BULLETIN

Vol. XX, No. 4



April, 1937

#### A MEDITATION ON THE CROSS

Do I think of bearing the cross merely in terms of patient endurance of the inevitable suffering and sorrows which come to me in the course of my life? Does not this fall short of understanding one of the deepest meanings of the cross? Was not the cross of Christ a voluntary assumption of the sufferings of others; an identification of His very life with the interests and well-being of those less privileged than Himself? Though existing on an equality with God, He counted not privilege and power things to be grasped, but took upon Himself the form of man, suffering with humanity even unto death, yea, the death of the cross.

Do I measure my personal religion by this test? Am I content with the condition of the world in proportion to my own good fortune, the happiness of my family, and the welfare of the economic class to which I happen to belong? Or have I voluntarily identified my interests with those of folks less privileged than I am—with the poor; with the unemployed; with those who live in slums; with child laborers; with workers in the factory and on the farm; with women who toil; with Negroes; with oppressed peoples throughout the world?

Let me pause and think of the lot of each of these. As I meditate now before the cross of Christ, I do resolve to learn, by personal contact and study, more than I now know about what life is like for the least of these His brethren. In humility, I ask myself, Am I as truly distressed over their situation as though it were my own? Am I prepared to say "so long as there is a lower class I am in it; so long as there is a soul in prison I am not free."

Am I personally happy only as my life contributes something to increasing the measure of justice and the possibilities of the good life for those who are now less privileged than myself? Am I bearing the cross?

Do I have in me that mind which was in Christ Jesus?

-From "Prayers for Self and Society" by James Myers. Association Press.

A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION

Religion

## Coming Events

A calendar of the more important national meetings of church organizations, so far as known to the Bulletin, is published monthly in this column.

Editorial Council of the Religious Press Washington, D. C
GENERAL CONFERENCE, UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST Chambersburg, PaMay 11, 1937
NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL WOMEN'S UNION
St. Louis, Mo
NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION Philadelphia, PaMay 20-25, 1937
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Oak Park, Ill
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U.S.A. Columbus, Ohio
GENERAL SYNOD, REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA Asbury Park, N. JJune 3, 1937
World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union Washington, D. CJune 3-8, 1937
Alliance of Reformed Churches Throughout the World Holding the Presbyterian System Montreal, CanadaJune 23-30, 1937
Association of Executive Secretaries of Councils of Churches and Religious Education Employed Officers' Association
Lake Geneva, WisJuly 3-10, 1937
International Christian Endeavor Convention Grand Rapids, MichJuly 8-13, 1937
World Conference on Life and Work Oxford, EnglandJuly 12-26, 1937
World Conference on Faith and Order

Edinburgh, Scotland ......August 3-18, 1937

Shiloh, N. J. .....August 24-29, 1937

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

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## Federal Council Bulletin

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Vol. XX, No. 4

**APRIL**, 1937

## THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

S. Parkes Cadman 1864—1936

Unrivaled master of the spoken word,
Whose startling genius claimed our rapt suspense,

What magic power begat thy polished phrase, What Muse inspired thy flaming eloquence?

Great preacher, fashioned in Olympic mould, Whose interest compassed every race and creed, Thou wert a voice for every worthy cause, Nor counted sect, but only human need.

True pastor, loyal shepherd of thy flock, Well didst thou care for all within the fold, Thy word sustained the lonely and bereaved, Inspired the weak and made the fearful bold.

Renown was thine. On ether waves were borne
Thy name and fame to earth's remotest end,
But never didst thou lose the human touch,
The great admired, the humble called thee
friend.

Great soul! Lead on! Forever lead us on! And free us from the bondage of the sod, Thou art not gone! Thou livest ever more, A prophet, priest,—a stalwart Man of God.

-Alfred Grant Walton.

Protestantism Learns to Say "We"

Two chief reasons explain why the movement of church coöperation has made pronounced gain during the last twenty-five years.

The first is a very practical reason: Coöperation is sound common-sense." Business men establish a Chamber of Commerce not as an "extra" but as a necessary means of coördination, an indispensable agency for doing together certain things which are of importance to the business community as a whole and which no single firm can do alone. Not otherwise is it with the churches. A visitor to one of our great cities noted that there was an exceptional number of strong Protestant churches, with splendid equipment and able ministers, but that Protestantism seemed weak in its influence on the community. The explanation was given by one of the most successful of the ministers:

"This is a Lone Wolf town; we have strong individual units but each is fighting for its own prestige. The Protestant churches have not yet learned to say 'we'. What we need is something that will make this city think not merely of the churches but of the Church."

The second reason for the development of church coöperation is a deeply spiritual one: We want unity in our life and work because we really are one in our purposes and in our faith. Our differences are many, but they have to do only with secondary issues, not with the heart of our message or our central objectives. The only

things we can be evangelistic about are the things we share with other denominations—our faith in God and our conviction as to the meaning of Christ for the world. When we think of those outside all our churches the thing that we must bear witness to is not Luther or Calvin or Wesley but Christ; not any church of man but the Church of the Living God. Why, then, should we not emphasize the unity of our witness by a united fellowship and united service?

Another aspect of the spiritual significance of coöperation is that it gives our message increased moral authority. All the churches, of whatever name, are trying to call the world to the Christian way of living together. We appeal to nations, races and classes to coöperate. But they are likely to take the appeal seriously only when they see the churches themselves practising the coöperation which they preach to others.

Fortunately, the churches have found the way, through the processes of federation, to make unity less of a theory and more of a reality. A far greater unity is needed than our present measure of coöperation provides, but at least our feet have been definitely set on the path of advance. We have discovered that we do not have to wait until all the ultimate problems of union are solved before gaining great values of unity that are possible now.

## The Houses on "Dead End Street"

Those who have seen the moving drama, "Dead End," need no arguments or statistics to help them see what it means to human life to have to live in such conditions as the drama portrays. One leaves the play realizing that city slums unmake character faster than the churches can make it.

Under the vigorous leadership of the Greater New York Federation of Churches a strong sentiment in behalf of slum clearance and rehousing for those of small incomes is being aroused. A city-wide conference on the subject has been held in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, participated in by Catholics, Protestants and Jews. A radio broadcast has been given on the theme, "Give Them a Better Chance." An interfaith manifesto has had wide attention. Such activities constitute an inspir-

ing illustration of the concern of the churches for the conditions under which "the other half" lives.

The point of view of the New York churchmen is indicated by these arresting words of their manifesto:

"Sociological studies offer conclusive evidence that slums breed crime. Health surveys have established the undeniable fact that slum areas are conducive to a higher infant mortality and a much greater incidence of disease. The experience of religious workers in under-privileged communities demonstrates the fact that the slum area aggravates nearly every physical and spiritual ill to which human life is susceptible. The slum denies to its dwellers the God-given rights and the human necessities of sunlight and fresh air. For the most part it denies to families the sort of home environment in which a wholesome family life can be maintained and nourished. It denies to little children room to play, save in the perilous streets amid the passing automobiles and exposed to vicious contacts. It denies to adolescent youth the place to play, room for necessary privacy and surroundings for fair and satisfactory association. It denies to hard-working men and women many of the elements which are regarded as essential to the home and to a personal and family self-respect."

Not content to speak in general terms, the churchmen pointed out specific facts concerning conditions in their own city:

"There are seventeen square miles of slums. There are sixty-six thousand old-law tenements housing nearly a third of the city's population, more than five hundred thousand families, including upwards of a million children. Between 1918 and 1929 there were 15,660 fires in old-law tenements and 448 human beings were burned to death. In the most congested area the infant mortality rate is approximately one hundred percent higher than the city average; the general mortality is more than two hundred percent higher, and the incidence of tuberculosis is nearly three hundred percent higher. The Real Property inventory reveals the fact that in New York out of 2,067,065 dwelling units 322,065 lack hot water; 249,653 lack private indoor toilets; 309,157 are without tubs or showers; 491,596 are without central heat. More than half of the 91,350 families in the lower East Side are without inside toilets. Common toilets are located in the halls or the rear yards. Central heating is lacking in 5,129 flats; 14,118 lack hot water; 40,216 are without tubs or showers. In the city at large, there are some 250,000 sleeping rooms into which the sun cannot shine-rooms for which the only access to fresh air is a narrow, interior and practically useless airshaft."

These conditions are not peculiar to New York. Careful students estimate that from one-quarter to one-third of America's urban population is housed in sub-standard and unhealthy surroundings. The situation is due, in part, to the selfish and blind and long-continued policy of land exploitation; in part, to the inadequate income of a great part of the population. The

final abolition of the slum will call for far-reaching economic changes. But that is no reason for being indifferent to the amelioration that is possible now through a constructive housing policy in our various cities and in the nation as a whole. Our country appears to be far behind England in facing the problem; there governmental planning and assistance have provided for more than a million low-rental housing units since the War.

The churches may not have the technical competence to determine the methods by which the appalling housing conditions in our cities can best be overcome, but there is something basic which they can do. They can shake the public out of its callous complacency. They can awaken the imagination to see the wreckage of life and personality that present conditions mean. They can arouse a moral demand that ways of redressing this great social wrong be found. The greatest need is for a new conscience on the subject; that conscience the churches by concerted action can supply.

## A Place for the Church to Get into "Politics"

The headlines over the Supreme Court, labor policies and other controversial issues have temporarily distracted public attention from the report on "Administrative Management" of the U. S. Government, made by the President's Committee, consisting of Louis Brownlow, Charles E. Merriam and Luther H. Gulick, eminent and non-partisan students of government. (Readers of the Bulletin will be interested to know that one of the three is the distinguished son of a distinguished secretary-emeritus of the Federal Council, Rev. Sidney L. Gulick.) On some of the more technical aspects of the Committee's proposals we are not competent to pass judgment but one of its important recommendations, transmitted to Congress by the President, is so clearly within the field of every citizen's moral responsibility that it calls for the active support of all church members.

The proposal to which we refer is the sweeping reform in civil service. As the Committee says, "Government cannot be any better or more efficient than the men and women who work in it." The Committee, therefore, proposes to place the appointment of all governmental officials and employees (except the few in policydetermining positions) under civil service provisions, to make personnel administration a part of every department, and to establish a Civil Service Administration directly under the President. Under these procedures it is hoped that able and disinterested persons will be more inclined to enter government service as a career, their appointment and promotion being freed from political considerations and based wholly upon merit. A Civil Service Board, unpaid, will be the "watch-dog" of the merit system. The Civil Service Administrator, appointed by the President, must be selected on the basis of competitive examination. On the Civil Service Board no one will be eligible to serve who has held or run for office within five years.

The need for such reform as is now proposed is apparent when one learns, on the authority of the National Civil Service Reform League, that almost half of the federal civil service still remains outside of the civil service law and is subject to political patronage. The situation is still worse in state and local governments. Only nine states have any kind of a civil service act. This year, however, bills are pending in at least twelve states.

Who should be more interested in the abolition of the spoils system than the leaders of the churches? They have the same stake that all good citizens have in efficient government. They also have a distinctive interest in honesty, integrity and incorruptibility as basic elements of Christian character. These are all subtly undermined when political favor rather than competence is made the condition of working under the government.

You can get a copy of the Report of the President's Committee on Administrative Management by writing to your Congressman or your Senator. The whole document deserves careful study and the recommendation for civil service extension and reform is one that should elicit special enthusiasm from all who believe that merit, not spoils, should rule in governmental service.

## The Next Great Step—Unite!

By E. STANLEY JONES

(A farewell message, here abbreviated, given by Dr. Jones on March 9, on the eve of his sailing for India)

NE of the difficulties in getting together is the underlying feeling that our particular denomination has been raised up to preserve and propagate a special phase of truth in Christianity. We do not want to lose that truth. There is a fact underlying this feeling. It is true that almost every one of our separate denominations came into being as a result of some special forgotten truth. How can we have unity with that background of an apparent God-inspired separativeness? We are asked to repent of sinful divisions and yet it is not easy to do so, because the divisions came not from sin but from a new vision. I cannot honestly feel sinful on account of the rise of Methodism. I rather glory in it and so does many another in regard to his own particular group.

And yet with all that loyalty to the past, we do feel that this is inadequate. Times have changed, new world demands are being laid upon us that cannot be met by us as separate denominations. We simply must get together. A divided Church has little moral authority in a divided world. But how can we get together? Here is where we throw up our hands. We have the feeling that if we wait till we can get together on some agreed church polity or government, then we will wait till doomsday. I don't believe it is possible to get an agreement in church government that will take in the High Episcopalian on the one hand and the Quaker on the otherand I could not leave out either one. I do not believe that unity is possible along that line. It would end in so many compromises that the union would be grey and colorless and command no one's enthusiasm.

I think we must go at it from another angle. We must look at certain facts that underlie the situation. Three outstanding facts have arisen out of the situation as I have listened in to hundreds of round-table conferences across the years. One is that when the Christians drop down beneath the level of organization and church polity to the level of experience, there they are the most united body on earth. They are united in the deepest thing of life, namely, in life itself. They share a common life in Christ. The Christian Church is at once the most united and the most divided body on earth—united at the center and divided at the margin. But the central thing to hold in mind is the fact that we are one. We do not have to seek for unity—we have it, fundamentally and centrally.

The second thing we have discovered is that the saints are about equally distributed among all the denominations. If you were to ask me where I thought they were most thickly congregated, for the life of me I couldn't tell you. There is no denomination that has a corner on the saints. God works through the denominations, some-

times in spite of them but never exclusively or particularly in any one of them. If this hurts our denominational pride, it may help our Christian humility! The idea that any one denomination is the exclusive or particular channel of God's grace is as dead as Queen Anne. The second thing we have as an underlying fact is equality.

The third fact that emerges is that there is a very great diversity in expressing this underlying unity, a diversity as widely expressed as the High Churchman on the one side and the Quaker on the other, with great diversity between.

Three facts, then, emerge—unity, equality, and diversity. Any approach to unity must take account of these underlying facts and build upon them.

Since we are inwardly one, I would suggest that we outwardly express that fact. Since we are all belonging to Christ, I would suggest that we all belong to "The Church of Christ." But since we are in America, I would suggest as the name, "The Church of Christ in America." We would all drop our denominational names as separate churches and belong to the one church-"The Church of Christ in America." But under this central unity we would have branches-"the Baptist Branch of the Church of Christ in America," the "Episcopalian Branch," "The Friends' Branch." In these branches we would have local self-government in much the same way that we give states' rights in the United States. If a branch has bishops it could keep them and look on them as it liked, but it wouldn't force them on the rest as the price of unity. In the same way, if any branch held to adult baptism it could continue to do so, but it would not compel the rest to adhere to it. Each branch could make any conditions or no conditions for transfer into membership or ministry it might desire to make. Nine-tenths of the denominations would probably straight off make no conditions whatever either for transfer of ministry or membership. Moreover, nine-tenths of them would have inter-communion straight off. The other one-tenth would put themselves into a stream of influences that in the end would make for the dropping of all barriers. In the meantime we would be patient, leaving to time and the Spirit of God the righting of exclusiveness.

There were two ways these United States might have attempted unity—one was to wipe out all state lines and state names and rule everything from Washington. Had we tried this, we would have been waiting yet for unity. The other way was to allow local expression in the states and bind the whole into a central unity. We took that way and achieved unity. But in the beginning there was a very strong state consciousness and a very weak central unity. The first decision of the United

States Supreme Court was flouted by the State of Georgia. In the original draft of the Constitution of the United States, the word "United" was in small letters, it was an adjective. But that word "United" is now a proper name and getting more proper all the time! In the beginning our branch consciousness would be strong but the unity consciousness would grow and one day completely grip us. On our letterheads, we would have "The Church of Christ in America" in large letters overarching all and down in the corner in small letters would be "Presbyterian Branch." The next time we printed them, the letters might be smaller! And some day they might fade out altogether—I don't know! We would leave that to time.

Over these branches, we would have the "General Assembly of the Church of Christ in America" made up of delegates on a pro-rata basis, with a minimum number guaranteeing representation of the smaller bodies. This body would have to do with the matters of general interest to the whole Church. District assemblies would deal with local matters such as overlapping and duplication.

Each nation might have its own national expression of Christianity—"The Church of Christ in Great Britain," "The Church of Christ in India," etc. Out of these national expressions would be a "World Assembly of the Church of Christ" made up of delegates from the national churches. This World Assembly would speak in the name of a United Christendom,

In regard to the doctrinal basis on which this unity would be founded, I would suggest that that basis be simple—as simple and yet as profound as Christ made it. He founded His Church on the confession that He was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. That is the Rock upon which it was founded. That is the Rock beneath us all. Any group that would confess that confession could be recognized as a branch. That is sufficiently definite to hold us to the essential, and sufficiently indefinite to give freedom for marginal differences.

But are the denominations willing to look on themselves and others as branches? If not, then if any denomination wants unity with other denominations and yet is not willing to recognize itself as a branch and others as branches, then the matter is plain—it does not want unity; it wants absorption. And I'm not interested in absorption on the part of any group. Nor will it ever happen. Any group that hopes that it will happen in regard to their group is hoping for the moon. It would impoverish Christianity to jam it into one denominational mold.

Under this plan, the amalgamation of separate branches could go on, if desirable. It would simply mean that we would have that many fewer branches. Many of our enterprises, as the missionary enterprise, could be conducted as a unit throughout the world. And with what an impact it would come, presenting a united front to the world need.

But let it be noted that this plan is more than a federation. In a federation the constituent bodies are left intact. In this plan they are not intact. There are no more separate *churches*—there are *branches* of one Church. The figure that would perhaps express it would be a tree with its many differing branches, all of them different but forming a symmetrical whole by those very differences, and all the branches adhering in the central trunk, "The Church of Christ in America."

Or, to change the figure, in Calcutta, I stayed with the Metropolitan of India, at "The Bishop's House." In this house are many rooms named after different bishops. I stayed in the "Heber Room." When people asked me on the outside where I was staying, I told them I was staying at "The Bishop's House"; but when those on the inside asked me where I was staying, I would reply that I was staying in "The Heber Room." But, the point was that, even though there were different names over our doors, we were all under one roof, and belonged to one family. Now we are under separate roofs with dividing walls between us. Now and then we come together in some joint enterprise, but the central thing is not our togetherness. Then the central thing would be our unity and the marginal thing our separateness.

Christians of America, unite! You have nothing to lose except your dividing walls!

#### Rural Church Publications

The Home Missions Councils, 105 East 22nd Street, New York, now have available a report of the National Conference on the Rural Church, held at Ames, Ia., November 23-25, 1936. It is published as a booklet under the title, "The Church and the Agricultural Situation." Addresses and summaries of the reports of sections are included. Single copies are available at 50 cents each; special rates for quantities.

Rural Life Sunday, being observed the fifth Sunday after Easter, May 2, 1937, may be most significantly celebrated by the rural church by using "Suggestions for the Observance of Rural Life Sunday," a leaflet published by the Home Missions Council and the Federal Council. The suggestions this year were prepared for the Committee on Town and Country by Mrs. Hilda Ives and C. M. McConnell. An order of service is included, also subjects and texts, significant quotations and a bibliography. Copies are available at \$1.10 per hundred; special rates on larger quantities.

The 1937 announcements of schools for ministers in town and country, to be held at agricultural colleges and theological seminaries, is available through the office of the Home Missions Council. The leaflet describes the purposes of the schools, the kinds of courses offered, the cost, and then gives a directory of all schools planned for 1937. Appended is a suggested four-year course of study for use in summer schools for town and country ministers. Copies are available at \$1.00 per hundred; special rates on larger quantities.

## A Momentous Hour in the German Church

ACCORDING to a wireless from Berlin to the New York Times, dated March 12, a surprisingly large proportion of the Protestant church people who are more than nominal adherents—a very high percentage of the church voters are in no real sense church people—are agreed now upon a drastic solution of their problem. What they have proposed is, in effect, that the church election (which Hitler has decreed to follow up his latest failure to bring the Church into conformity through the authority of a political Minister for Church Affairs) shall be used to determine who are for a genuinely Christian Church and who are prepared to abandon it for a "National Church."

Since the foes of the Christian Church are in practically complete command of the party and the State, it is obvious that the Church, if permitted this separation of itself from what has been the Established Evangelical Church, would become a free Church. This is a very radical proposal for Lutherans who have always thought of Church and State as closely linked. They have refrained from lining up with the more pronounced Confessional Movement up to the present mainly because it proposes making church membership a matter of religious faith and not of anything else. But now Lutherans of the official Council representing the whole country as well as the leaders of the Confessional Synods-more representative lately of Reformed Churchmen than of Lutherans—appear to be united in a proposal which is quite without precedent in German Lutheranism. They have been forced to this conclusion by the four years of struggle to maintain any true independence in the spiritual leadership of the Church.

As the *Times* dispatch says, "this decision is historic." It was announced in a proclamation which was mailed to all pastors, stating, among other things: "Either we are to have an evangelical church based on God's word and faith in Christ, or we are to have a religious association based on a new revelation which has confused the duties of State and Church and which must entirely lose every claim to call itself the Protestant Church. Either we are followers of Christ or we are to take a road which surrenders bit by bit all the truth contained in the Bible and end in a substitute faith in Germany. We must face this question frankly and let no effort to cloud the issue deceive us."

There is no evasion here of the fundamental issue. A totalitarian state must seek to become the direct object of religious loyalty. As such it clearly clashes with the Christian Church. Sooner or later the two are bound to come into irreconcilable conflict. No readjustments, no redefinitions, no compromises can in the long run avail.

Such a division as is now possible would bring with it great legal and financial changes in Germany, but apparently the Christian leaders who have not bowed their necks to Baal are ready to face that unitedly.

This effort at a clear division, which apparently has the support of the Ministry of the Interior as well as the church leaders themselves, is reported to be vigorously opposed by the more radical wing of the Nazi party leaders. They feel that a new election with no issue but that of the unified leadership of the Church would enable them, by methods of propaganda and threats and curtailment of free discussion, to secure the complete control of the Church.

No one can tell at this juncture what the decision of Hitler will be with respect to the two possibilities connected with the Church Election he has decreed. Whichever way it is managed, it is fraught with very great danger for the Church of the future in Germany. If the division between the Christians and the fanatical nationalists goes through, it will at least have the advantage of showing who is who instead of mixing the two elements. as is now the case. With such division and the consequent disestablishment of the Church, a closer bond could be expected between the hitherto widely divergent elements within the Church-Lutheran and Reformed. Not less significant perhaps would be the fact that such a solution would make it possible for churches throughout the world to have relations of greater fellowship with the Church of Germany.

HENRY SMITH LEIPER.

#### A Correction

Since a few readers have misinterpreted a statement made in the September issue of the BULLETIN concerning Hon. Max Brauer, former Mayor of Altona, Germany, now lecturing in this country, the BULLETIN desires to make an explanation. When it stated that Mr. Brauer was associated with "the first thrilling protest in the German Church against coercion by the State," the occasion to which reference was made was not the Barmen meeting of the Confessional Synod but a much earlier gathering in Altona at which an important group of ministers and laymen of that city made a public declaration in defense of the freedom of the Church and liberty of conscience.

#### Midwest Committee Meets

Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones, President of the Federal Council, was the guest of the Federal Council's Midwest Committee, the Chicago Church Federation and the Disciples' Union of Chicago on February 22-23. Dr. Jones addressed the union ministers' meeting of the city and spoke at a luncheon of the Federal Council's Midwest Committee. Mr. E. M. Bowman, one of the leading laymen of the Disciples of Christ and for several years a member of the Federal Council's Executive Committee, was a special guest of honor with Dr. Jones at the meeting of the Disciples' Union.

## New Meaning in Mother's Day

I N coöperation with the Maternity Center Association of New York, the Federal Council's Committee on Marriage and the Home is appealing to ministers to make Mother's Day, May 9, an occasion for education on the problem of needless maternity deaths. A statement setting forth the facts concerning deaths connected with childbirth and outlining a program for improving the situation is being widely distributed.

The statement, which suggests the possibility of making Mother's Day have more than sentimental value, says:

Mother's Day was first conceived and proclaimed as an occasion on which to honor mothers, living and dead. Isn't it strange, however, that the United States, which was the first country to observe Mother's Day as a special occasion, should have one of the highest death rates for mothers in childbirth of the civilized world? In our zeal to honor the mothers of the past, have we not forgotten the mothers of the future? In 1934 (latest available figures) 15,000 mothers died from childbirth causes in this land of ours. This is not a complete description, however, of the scope and size of the problem. In the same year over 30,000 babies died within twenty-four hours after they were born! 40,000 more before they were one month old. We in the United States are, therefore, paying for motherhood in the neighborhood of 85,000 lives of mothers and babies every year.

Undoubtedly many of these 85,000 deaths were unavoidable. But thousands upon thousands of babies and added thousands of mothers did not need to die. Two out of every three mothers who died in childbirth last year died needlessly. Medical knowledge knew how to cope with their problems. Hospitals were equipped to care for them. Nurses were available in many communities to aid them. But they died . . . and many families were left desolate.

Why did they die? The Maternity Center Association of New York gives three important reasons—ignorance, negligence and lack of facilities—and the greatest of these is ignorance.

Ruth Hogarth Burritt wrote a beautiful little poem, "A Mother's Prayer," which expresses a desire every mother should have fulfilled—and it usually can be granted if we and others in this community, state and nation will strive to provide good care for every expectant mother.

Long days of waiting
Nights filled with prayer
End of my vigil
Something so fair
I can bear suffering—
But, God, let me stay
That I may walk with him
Part of the way!

As citizens we should support all efforts to improve our local facilities for the provision of good medical care to every mother who needs it. There are six essential but simple elements of maternity care which every mother should have: (1) a complete medical examination early in pregnancy; (2) regular and frequent examination and supervision; (3) an aseptic delivery under the supervision of a competent doctor; (4) supervision, care and instruction after the baby comes until the mother is able to resume her normal schedule of activities; (5) examination six weeks, three months, six months and one year after the baby comes; (6) arrangements for the continuous medical supervision of the baby.

The full statement can be had upon request, accompanied by postage stamp, to the Maternity Center Association, 1 East 57th Street, New York, or the Federal Council's Committee on Marriage and the Home, 105 East 22nd Street, New York.

## Rising Interest in Oxford

HE ecumenical conference on Church, Community and State to be held in Oxford, England, July 12-26, is now the subject of deep and widespread interest. The acuteness of the issues which the conference is to face has so emphasized the timeliness of the gathering that far more of the thoughtful leaders than had been anticipated are eager to meet the demands of both time and money in order to attend. The American delegation will be made up of 85 delegates, most of whom have already been officially appointed by the cooperating denominations, with a few coöpted members for the purpose of securing the assistance of those who have special competence in connection with the subjects that are to be studied. There will also be an equal number of associates who will be able to attend plenary sessions without participating in the discussions.

The Oxford conference is not to be a convention or a gathering of a popular type but a meeting for intensive study on the part of all delegates, selected because of their interest in the relation of the Church to the major problems of contemporary civilization. For a considerable part of the time the conference will meet in five

sub-sections studying the following aspects of the general subject, with the leaders designated:

The Church and the Community. Chairman, Sir Walter Moberly; Secretary, Dr. Hans Lilje.

The Church and the State. Chairman, Hon. Max Huber; Co-Chairman, Dr. William Adams Brown; Secretary, Dr. Nils Ehrenstrom.

Church, Community and State in Relation to the Social Order. Secretary, Dr. John C. Bennett.

Church, Community and State in Relation to Education. Chairman, Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin.

The Universal Church and a World of Nations; Christianity and War. Chairman, Dr. John Mackay; Co-Chairman, Dr. Visser W. A. Hooft; Secretary, Dr. William Paton.

Associated with Rev. Henry Smith Leiper, who serves as Secretary both of the American Section of the Universal Christian Council and of the Federal Council's Department of Relations with Churches Abroad, is Rev. Deane Edwards, formerly minister of the church at Radburn, N. J., and Secretary of the Bergen County Council of Churches.

## Churches Plan Relief for Spain

HE Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill has decided to give the fullest possible coöperation to the undertaking of the American Friends Service Committee in behalf of a non-partisan child-feeding mission to Spain. The enterprise is launched as a result of a careful survey of the situation made by Sylvester Jones, who was sent to Spain by the Quaker organization for the purpose of ascertaining the need for and possibilities of American help. His report shows that refugee children of the Loyalists and war orphans of the Nationalists are alike in urgent need of outside assistance.

Dr. Salvador De Madariaga, former ambassador from Spain to the United States, on hearing of the proposal, wrote:

The need is desperate. I hope you can be in the field soon, not only with food and supplies but also with the spirit of goodwill that characterizes Quaker relief.

Hon. Claude G. Bowers, ambassador from the United States to Spain, made this statement to Mr. Jones:

The American Friends Service Committee deserves the highest commendation for the humanitarian impulse which has sent you to Spain to ascertain what, if anything, can be done toward the amelioration of the suffering of the innocent women and children resulting from the war. The necessary evacuation of vast numbers of people from their homes to escape destruction might well, it seemed to me, be assisted by neutral peoples. Food, clothing, medicines, are seriously needed—fully as much for the women and children of Spain as they were needed in Belgium when the neutral world did so much to reduce their suffering. I am informed that in hospitals even, there is not only a lack of medicine, but that in many instances it has been necessary to perform operations without an anaesthetic. In sending you to Spain to survey the needs of humanity on both sides, your organization has done a very fine thing that cannot but be appreciated by the entire Spanish people.

The American Friends Service Committee proposes to send relief workers with food, clothing and medical supplies as a non-partisan commission. The work of this organization has won such widespread confidence that it has the active support and interest of leaders in all the churches. The Federal Council has therefore felt that, instead of launching a separate enterprise of its own, it should throw its efforts behind the organization which both in spirit and by experience is prepared to function effectively for the Christian conscience of America.

Contributions may be sent either to the Federal Council or directly to the American Friends Service Committee, 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Seeking Justice for Racial Minorities

HREE bills now before Congress have important bearing on the problems of Negroes and other racial minorities.

Senators Wagner and Van Nuys and nearly fifty Congressmen have introduced anti-lynching legislation, carefully drawn to obviate some of the difficulties met by previous bills. The new bills provide (a) punishment by fine or imprisonment of any peace officer who "wilfully fails, neglects or refuses to protect a prisoner from a mob or to make diligent efforts to apprehend members of the mob"; (b) investigation by the Attorney General of the United States on receipt of an affidavit by a citizen that a peace officer has failed to protect a prisoner or to apprehend lynchers; (c) a fine of \$2,000 to \$10,000 on counties where lynchings occur because of failure to exercise due diligence. Growing sentiment in favor of such a measure is shown by an inquiry by the American Institute of Public Opinion, popularly known as the Gallup Poll. In answer to the question, "Should Congress enact a law which would make lynching a federal crime?" the nation as a whole voted 70 per cent in favor. The Pacific Coast had the lowest favorable vote, 59 per cent. Most significant was the Southern vote of 65 per cent in favor of a federal law.

The Harrison-Black-Fletcher bill would provide federal funds for public education, grants to the states being apportioned on the basis of their school-age population.

The bill originally contained no safeguard to insure equitable division of these grants in states and territories where separate schools are maintained for racial minorities. Under the bill as drawn, states could call for funds on the basis of the total school-age population and expend all on the white schools. While this extreme discrimination might not obtain, experience gives basis for misgiving. In 1900, the disparity between Negro and white school expenditures was 48 per cent. In 1930 it was five times as large. In 1933-34, to take a single example, Alabama spent only 10.8 per cent of its money on Negro students whereas they constituted 32.7 per cent of the school population. A series of amendments has been framed providing that the proposed federal funds shall be spent in fair proportion racially, that states shall expend on Negro schools from state funds not less, proportionately, than they spent in 1936, that accounting shall be made of disbursements by race, and that funds shall be withheld from any state violating these provisions. As the Bulletin goes to press it appears probable that the bill will be revised so as to include the substance of these proposals.

The Farmers Homes Corporation Bill is again before Congress. Strong support for it is furnished by the report of the President's Committee on Farm Tenancy, which shows the alarming growth of tenancy and insecurity among the farm population. The report recom-

Supplement to the
FEDERAL COUNCIL BULLETIN
April, 1937

# The Issues at Oxford

An Invitation



This folder invites your cooperation in the preparatory thinking essential to the success of the World Conference on Church, Community, and State which meets in Oxford, England, July 12-26, 1937.

This conference has been called by the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work, in succession to the Stockholm Conference of 1925, to face the grave issues which confront the world today, and to consider the responsibility of the Church to them. A similar conference on Faith and Order will be held in Edinburgh, August 3-18, 1937.

About eight hundred representatives of the churches and Christian organizations of the world, except the Roman Catholic Church, will assemble at Oxford. Two hundred and fifty of these will be from North America.

If these delegates are to express the mind of the Church, they must have the ideas of many people. The wider the area of expression, the broader the base upon which judgments can rest.

The conference will discuss the issues in five areas of Christian responsibility. Vital questions in each of these areas are given within. You are requested to note your convictions regarding all of them or those which particularly interest you. While individual answers are welcomed, it is hoped that the replies will come rather from the thinking of groups gathered to discuss these matters. In the autumn, further opportunity will be given for the study of these questions in the light of the discussions at Oxford.

When this folder has been completed, it should be returned promptly to the Universal Christian Council (American Section), 287 Fourth Ave., New York City. A digest of the ideas registered will be made and submitted to the Oxford delegates for their consideration.

All replies should reach New York not later than June 1st, 1937, to allow time for study and compilation.

Universal Christian Council for Life and Work 287 Fourth Avenue, New York City

## I. The Church and the Community

- 1. Which of the following represents your conception of the function of the Church?
  - (1) To nourish the inner life of the individual and prepare the soul for eternity.
  - (2) To redeem society as well as the individual from the power of evil; and to make life now, as well as hereafter, conform to the purposes of God.
  - (3) Your own view if differing from the above.

- 2. In endeavoring to transform the life of the community, how many of the following should the Church use?
  - (1) Appeal to moral and spiritual principles by educational and inspirational methods.
  - (2) A program of social activities arising from the needs of the community.
  - (3) A legislative campaign to establish and maintain Christian standards in society.

3. What should be the attitude of the Church toward secular agencies which like itself are seeking the betterment of society?

4. Should the Christian Church regard itself as the religious expression of a national or racial community or as a Christian world community transcending such limitations?

## II. The Church and the State

1.	How far are you in accord with that historic position which thinks of the Church and the State as differing aspects of a single entity—the national community?
2.	What in present conditions or habits of thought weakens such a position today?
3.	Is the State ever justified in nationalizing the Church?
4.	How far is the Church responsible for the antagonisms which have grown up against it in various parts of the world?
5.	What are the dangers to the spiritual life of the individual and society in regarding the State as the final and absolute object of loyalty?
6.	What serious elements or possibilities of conflict between Church and State do you note in North America?

## III. Church, Community and State in Relation to the Social Order

	Order
	Does Christ's frequent use of illustration drawn from the economic life of His day create an obligation for the Christian follower to be interested in the economic life of today?
2.	What goals or standards for economic life are implicit in the Christian Gospel?
	What is the function of the Church in a time of economic stress and social struggle?
	How far should the churches allow their ministers freedom to discust the ethical aspects of business and politics?
5.	What should be the attitude of the Church toward Labor Unions?

## IV. Church, Community and State in Relation to Education

v. Charon, Community and State in Leave	
1. Should complete control of education be in the han or the State?	nds of either the Church
2. In what areas of education should the Church and a free hand?	nd the State each have
3. In what manner, if any, should religion be taugh of North America?	ht in the public schools
4. Is freedom of thought and speech essential to the munity?	he welfare of the Com-
5. Are "Teacher's Oaths" and state censorship of seadvantageous to a democracy?	school textbook material
6. What tendencies that threaten free speech are America today?	to be found in North
7. Should public funds be used in support of the education?	ne Church's program o

## V. (a) The Church Universal and a World of Nations

1. In view of the great diversity of racial and cultural backgrounds among the nations, is it practicable for the Church Universal to attempt to formulate world Christian opinion?
2. Is it possible for the churches of the world to influence effectively the nations of the world without uniting in some manner for expression and action?
3. What form of visible organization will best give embodiment to the universality of the Church?
4. What responsibility has the Church Universal for the welfare of each of the individual churches which constitute it?
5. Should the Church Universal, speaking either through the churches of each nation or through ecumenical councils, be concerned with practical international issues such as: tariffs, more equitable distribution of colonial territory, the war in Spain, the League of Nations, etc.?

## V. (b) The Christian Attitude to War

1. Should the Church, in fidelity to the teachings of Christ, advocate absolute non-participation in war? 2. If a nation becomes involved in war, what position should the churches of that nation take with reference to the conflict? 3. Should the churches of North America advocate complete neutrality for their nations in time of war? 4. Which of the following is the most potent cause of war? National pride Traditional glorification of war Economic disadvantage Desire for empire Over-population Conflict of political philosophies 5. What do you think the most potent influence for peace? NAME OF INDIVIDUAL REPORTING (Print or type) GROUP DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS Number in Group.

## Suggestions

Groups

It is suggested that these questions be discussed in churches, ministerial associations, ecclesiastical organizations, Councils of Churches, Y.M.C.A.'s, Y.W.C.A.'s, men's brotherhoods, women's societies, Bible classes, young people's groups, student associations, theological seminaries, and other groups interested in the message of the Church to the life of today. It may be necessary to have several meetings to discuss satisfactorily matters involved.

Reports

The leader or some other member of the group should outline the mind of the group in the blank space following each printed question. Report should be made even if all questions are not answered.

The literature on all these questions is voluminous and generally known. Mention might be made, however, of several books which have been written with the Oxford Conference in mind.

> William Adams Brown: "Church and State in Contemporary America," \$2.75

> Adolph Keller: "Church and State on the European Continent," \$2.50

Henry Smith Leiper: "Christ's Way and the World's,"

J. H. Oldham: "Church, Community and State: a World Issue," \$.25

Charles H. Corbett: "The Church and the World Crisis" (a study outline), \$.25

John C. Bennett: "Christianity-and Our World." \$.50

A special packet containing the last four books may be obtained for \$1.25 from the Universal Christian Council, 287 Fourth Ave., New York City. Individual books may be obtained from the Council or from bookstores.

About two hundred and fifty individuals from North America will attend the Oxford Conference. They are scattered over the United States and Canada. In many instances they will be able to give leadership to these discussion groups. Lists of those who expect to attend at Oxford may be obtained from the New York office of the Universal Christian Council. Contact should be made direct with these individuals if their help is desired.

Post-Lenten Project

Discussion of these questions will provide an appropriate post-Lenten project in many churches and other groups. The spiritual stimulus of the Lenten period may well be turned to consideration of these questions which relate to the outreach of the Church into contemporary life.

Further information and additional copies of this folder may be obtained from the Universal Christian Council, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

(8)

Books

Leadership

mends provisions to insure (1) increased opportunity for farm ownership; (2) improved conditions in the tenant system; (3) methods to stop the processes by which both owners and tenants are being drawn increasingly into insecurity and poverty.

The Federal Council's Department of Race Relations is asking church people to study these questions and advises support of the first and last bills, and the suggested amendments to the Harrison-Black-Fletcher bill. Further material may be secured from the Department.

## Preaching Mission Carries On

So many cities were disappointed last fall at not being included in the itinerary of the National Preaching Mission that a new series of missions has been launched for 1937. Two of these missions are to be held in the month of April, as follows: Denver, April 15-18; Minneapolis-St. Paul, April 18-21.

In October and November other cities will be visited. Those which have already made definite requests which have been accepted are: Quincy, Ill., Cincinnati, O., Little Rock, Ark., Wichita, Kan., Shreveport, La., Jacksonville, Fla., Richmond, Va., Charleston, W. Va., and Oklahoma City, Okla. Conferences with the religious leaders of other cities are under way.

Each of these missions will continue for four days and be projected on the same city-wide basis as prevailed under the National Preaching Mission last year. The programs will include conference with ministers, special meetings for laymen, women, and young people, educational seminars on various aspects of Christian living and popular mass meetings.

The speakers who have accepted invitations to participate in the missions in Denver and Minneapolis-St. Paul, scheduled for this month are: Albert W. Beaven, Rochester, N. Y.; Oscar F. Blackwelder, Washington, D. C.; J. Sutherland Bonnell, New York, N. Y.; Arthur Braden, Lexington, Ky.; Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, Denver, Colo.; Ivan Gould, Chicago, Ill.; E. G. Homrighausen, Indianapolis, Ind.; Douglas Horton, Chicago, Ill.; George Irving, New York, N. Y.; Edgar DeWitt Jones, Detroit, Mich.; W. R. King, New York, N. Y.; Willis J. King, Atlanta, Ga.; D. W. Kurtz, Chicago, Ill.; Harry C. Munro, Chicago, Ill.; Joseph Fort Newton, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Grace Sloan Overton, Harlan, Ind.; Rt. Rev. W. E. Scarlett, St. Louis, Mo.; Joseph R. Sizoo, New York, N. Y.; Hon. William E. Sweet, Denver, Colo.

## National Broadcasts in Holy Week

A new development this year in religious radio was the series of daily nation-wide broadcasts sent out over a national network of the National Broadcasting Company during Holy Week at 5:45 to 6:00 p. m. Each of the programs included some of the great music of the Church centering around the last week of our Lord's life. The speakers on the successive days were as follows:

March 22—Rev. Dr. Ralph Emerson Davis, Pastor, St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. March 23—Rev. Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, Pastor, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York

March 24—Rev. Dr. Elmore M. McKee, Rector, St. George's Protestant Episcopal Church, New York March 25—Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, Pastor, Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, New York

March 26—Rev. Dr. Frederick H. Knubel, President, United Lutheran Church of America.

The regular weekly schedule of religious radio is as follows:

"Radio Pulpit" with Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, Sunday, at 10:00 a.m., over WEAF and network

"National Vespers" with Rev. Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Sunday, at 4:00 p.m., over WJZ and network

"Homespun" with Rev. Dr. William Hiram Foulkes, Wednesday, at 12:15 p.m., over WJZ and network

"Religion in the News" with Rev. Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk, Saturday, at 6:45 p.m., over WEAF and network

"The Church in the World Today" with Rev. Dr. Alfred Grant Walton, Saturday, at 8:00 a.m., over WJZ and network

"Morning Devotions," Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 a.m., over WJZ and network.

A recent check-up on the distribution of the programs of religious radio sponsored by the Federal Council showed that at least one of its programs was broadcast each week by each of the 110 stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company. Four short-wave stations are also making many of the programs available to other lands.

## Prayers for Self and Society

A second edition of "Prayers for Self and Society," by James Myers, Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council, is now being printed. This little volume of prayers and meditations, breathing the spirit of Christian compassion, brotherhood and social justice, has met so great a need that the first edition is exhausted. Advance orders for the new edition have already reached 1600 even though the booklet has not yet come from press. Several church boards and missionary societies are ordering it in quantity.

The new edition will include two additions, "Prayer at Christmas" and "Meditation on the Cross."

The booklet is published at 15 cents per copy; special rates for orders in quantity.

### No-Foreign-War Crusade Launched

Under the auspices of the Emergency Peace Campaign—Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Chairman—a movement known as the No-Foreign-War Crusade was inaugurated on April 6, the twentieth anniversary of America's entrance into the World War, and is to continue. The initiation of the movement took the form of a national broadcast over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Company at 10:30 p.m., E.S.T., with Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick as speakers.

The announcement of the plans for the No-Foreign-War Crusade, which will include community-wide meetings all over the country, was made at a conference held at the Riverside Church, New York, on March 4, attended by a representative body of both Christians and Jews, considering the general theme "What Can the Church and the Synagogue Do to Prevent War?" Dr. A. Maude Royden, the distinguished English woman preacher, urged the need for a greater emotionalization of peace work as an aid to combating the dramatics and heroics of war. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, minister of Christ Church, New York, declaring that there is no basis for the belief that the ministry will beat the war drums as soon as another war hysteria starts, said: "Give us ten more years of public education and we can make this country at least seventy-five percent war-proof."

Among the speakers of the No-Foreign-War Crusade are Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones of Detroit, President of the Federal Council of Churches, and Dr. Ivan Lee Holt, of St. Louis, and Dr. Albert W. Beaven, of Rochester, former presidents of the Council.

The 50-page booklet, which has been prepared as a handbook of ways and means by which individuals and groups may help to keep the United States out of war and promote world peace, is available at 5 cents per copy from the office of the Emergency Peace Campaign, 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Tribute to Muriel Lester

A tea in honor of Miss Muriel Lester and in recognition of her service to the National Preaching Mission was given by Mrs. James S. Cushman at her New York home on the afternoon of March 12, under the sponsorship of the Women's Coöperating Commission of the Federal Council. The eighty invited guests who were present heard Miss Lester give an impassioned plea for a greater devotion of Christian women to the cause of building a better world. She laid special emphasis upon the call for more sacrificial service in behalf of world peace.

Miss Lester was introduced by Mrs. Harrie R. Chamberlin, of Toledo, who had been associated with Miss Lester for several weeks during the Preaching Mission. A brief address was also made by Mrs. Henry Sloane Coffin, who paid a tribute to the Federal Council, which

had sponsored the Preaching Mission, as the cause of the Mission's significance for the growing unity of the Christian forces of America.

## Bread Upon the Waters

The Federal Council of Churches has had close relationship to notable relief organizations during the past decade, helping to endorse their approach to the American church public. Very recently the Council has had examples of the fact that American benevolence has been the medium for furthering a spirit of reciprocal goodwill.

A few weeks ago, \$60,000 was received from China for the Red Cross relief work in our flooded areas in the Middle West. The funds represent great sacrifice on the part of people who may well be counted poorer than ours in this world's goods.

And now Switzerland, also struggling with a severe depression, has followed suit. The American Office of the Central Bureau for Relief, which was instituted in 1922 by The Federal Council of Churches to help distressed European Protestantism, has just received from its International Committee the following letter signed by Prof. J. E. Choisy as President and Adolf Keller as General Secretary.

The Executive Committee of the European office of the Central Bureau herewith conveys to the American office the expression of its heartfelt sympathy with the sufferers in the great disaster which has overtaken so large an area and has stricken so many among your Church public in the Ohio Valley. We are grieved to think that the floods have brought poverty to hundreds of thousands and would like to do our bit toward alleviating the suffering. We hope to do this in a small way, but symbolical of our feeling.

## Ministers Hold Hearing on Strike

An example of one of the things which ministers can do during a highly controversial situation was the state-wide conference convened by the Michigan Council of Churches at the Y.M.C.A. Building, Highland Park, on February 2, during the General Motors strike. principal speakers were Mr. R. L. Lee, an executive of General Motors; Mr. Homer Martin, President of the United Automobile Workers of America, and Mr. Victor S. Woodward, Administrator of the Genesee County Welfare Relief Commission. No resolutions were passed except a request that the Detroit Council of Churches cooperate with representatives of this conference to secure more information about industrial conflicts so that church people may be more fully informed. It was felt by those present that the conference was of great value in this direction. It demonstrated publicly, also, a concern by church forces in issues vitally affecting the lives of thousands.

A special issue of *Information Service* was published by the Federal Council's Research Department on February 6 on the General Motors strike after field study by representatives of The Federal Council. Copies may be had for five cents.

#### Film on German Christian Refugees

Conditions among Christian Germans who are being exiled for heritage or beliefs will be vividly presented to an audience of clergymen, welfare workers, writers and editors at 8:15 P.M. on April 12, when the American Committee for Christian German Refugees presents the motion picture "Modern Christian German Martyrs" for the first time at the Riverside Church, New York City.

The film includes talks by James G. McDonald, former League of Nations High Commissioner for German Refugees, who first recommended the formation of the American Committee, and Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick of the Riverside Church. Both men have had intimate views of the suffering among Christians with Jewish blood or with intellectual ideals which they refused to abandon in Nazi Germany. Also on the program will be another motion picture, "Give Me Liberty".

Dr. Robert Wyckoff Searle will preside and Dr. E. C. Carder will deliver the invocation. Miss Erika Mann, daughter of the noted German writer now in exile, Thomas Mann, will be one of the speakers. Dr. Ewart Edmund Turner, formerly pastor of the American Church in Berlin, will discuss the "Religious Crisis Within Germanv."

Dr. Henry Smith Leiper will speak on "The Reason for the Picture." Anita Engel, a refugee and a singer who has been well received by music critics in America, will present a program of songs.



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All those interested in the work of helping their hundreds of fellow-Christians, whose only crime is not fitting into the Nazi scheme, are urged to attend. Space is limited and those wishing to secure admission cards should write immediately to Mr. Frank Ritchie, American Committee for Christian German Refugees, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York. The film will be made available free of charge to other communities throughout the country, with the Northeast first to see it.

## Tribute to Stanley Jones

On March 9, the evening on which Dr. E. Stanley Jones sailed for India, a public farewell service in his honor was given at the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, New York, under the auspices of the Federal Council and the Greater New York Federation of Churches. Dr. Jones's farewell address centered around the importance of securing a greater measure of unity in the Church. It is printed on another page of the BULLETIN.

Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones, President of the Federal Council, in a tribute to Dr. Stanley Jones, said:

The spirited preaching of Dr. Stanley Jones in connection with the National Preaching Mission sent a singing wind across the nation that has blown everybody some good. His disciplined optimism enabled multitudes to recover the lost radiance of Christianity. His passion for Christian unity quickened the conscience of millions as regards the pitiful weakness of splintered Protestantism. The simplicity of his character, the devotion of his life, the statesmanship of the man in the realm of religion, have endeared him to us beyond words of adequate expression.

#### Editorial Council to Meet

The annual meeting of the Editorial Council of the Religious Press, under the chairmanship of Dan B. Brummitt and the secretaryship of Guy E. Shipler, will be held at the Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., April 19-20.

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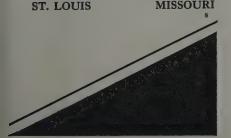
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## News of State and Local Cooperation

St. Louis Elects Clark W. Cummings

On May 1, Rev. Clark Walker Cummings, minister of First Christian Church of Springfield, Ill., will assume his new duties as executive secretary of the Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis. Dr. Cummings, who has been pastor of the Springfield Church since 1928, succeeds Dr. Arthur H. Armstrong, under whose leadership the St. Louis Federation has become one of the outstanding examples of effective interdenominational organization.

The president of the St. Louis Church Federation is Dean Sidney E. Sweet of Christ Church Cathedral.

#### United Lenten Services

The custom of holding a series of united community-wide meetings for spiritual emphasis during Lent has become so wide-spread that it is now generally taken for granted. The city councils of churches have become the great centers through which these Lenten services are arranged.

As illustrative of the kind of program which is offered in many of the cities, the Cleveland, Ohio, Church Federation scheduled a series of Noonday Services from 12:15 to 12:45 each day during Lent and on Good Friday provided a three-hour service participated in by representative ministers of the various churches. The Cleveland Federation also enlarged its Lenten program by offering to provide upon request guest speakers for luncheon groups, service clubs, high school assemblies and various other organizations. A surprisingly hearty response came to this offer, with the result that speakers were furnished to Kiwanis Clubs, high schools, women's clubs, the Woman's Civic League and various other organizations of the community, who welcomed the opportunity of having a speaker on a religious theme during Lent.

In New Haven, Conn., a Noonday Luncheon Service was broadcast from 12:00 to 12:45 by Station WELI sponsored by the New Haven Council of Churches. The Youth Council arranged an Easter Sunrise Service on East Rock, to which the whole community was invited. Dr. Charles R. Brown, Dean Emeritus of Yale Divinity School, and Prof. William Lyon Phelps each spoke daily in this program for a week.

#### Rochester Loses Franklin Ward

On March 3, the churches of Rochester, N. Y., experienced a great sense of loss in the announcement of the resignation of Dr. C. Franklin Ward as executive secretary of the Federation of Churches of Rochester and Monroe County. Dr. Ward's resignation was made on account of ill health and on the advice of physicians that he ought not to carry as heavy demands upon his energies as the leadership of the Church Federation requires. Dr. Ward's resignation becomes effective on July 31.

In accepting the resignation, Dr. W. F. Crossland, president of the Federation, said: "His keen mind and his great heart have won for him the respect and warm friendship of members of all churches and faiths. A forward-looking churchman, a fearless preacher, and an able executive, Dr. Ward will be sorely missed in the councils of religious and social groups."

## Minnesota Pastors in State Convocation

The Protestant Evangelical pastors of Minnesota met for their fifth annual conference in St. Paul, February 1-2-3, with headquarters at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Rev. Clifford Ansgar Nelson, pastor. The attendance was the second highest of the five conferences. The paid registrations totaled 444. Of this number the Methodists had the largest number with 105 registered. The Lutherans were second with 94. A splendid spirit prevailed. Pas-





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Watch for these April publications!

THOUGHTS ON DEATH AND I by William Ernest Hocking. \$2.00

MAN'S SEARCH FOR THE GOOD LIFE by A. Eustace Haydon. \$2.50

THE SOCIAL MANIFESTO OF JESUS by Edwin McNeill Poteat, Jr. \$2.00

At All Bookstores HARPER & BROTHERS : Established 1817 tors of all communions are having an opportunity of getting acquainted through this annual meeting.

The program, prepared by a committee of which the Rt. Rev. Stephen E. Keeler, Bishop Coadjutor of Minnesota, was chairman, included addresses by Miss Maude Royden of London; President Aurelia H. Reinhardt of Mills College, California; Dr. Sherwood Eddy; President Conrad Bergendoff, of Augustana College and Seminary; and Rev. Jesse M. Bader, of the Federal Council of Churches, together with leading ministers of the State.

Conference periods considered the following topics: The Pastor-His Own Evangelist; The Pastor-His Opportunity in a War Threatened World; The Pastor-His Own Spiritual Life; The Pastor-His

The conference is promoted by a volunteer committee consisting of unofficial representatives from 33 Protestant evangelical denominations and communions and from 5 interdenominational agencies.

The officers of the 1937 committee were Rev. C. A. Wendell, Grace Lutheran Church of Minneapolis, Chairman; Rev. Bertram B. Hanscom, Park Avenue Congregational Church of Minneapolis, and Rev. A. J. Northrup, St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Paul, Vice-chairmen; Rev. Hayden L. Stright, General Secretary of the Minnesota Council of Religious Education, Executive Secretary.

#### New York Federation Leads in Attack on Slums

A Church Conference on Slum Clearance, brought about as a result of the initiative of the Greater New York Federation of Churches and held under the chairmanship of the Rt. Rev. William T.

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Manning, attracted wide interest throughout the city and was the subject of extended report and discussion in all of the metropolitan newspapers. The Conference, which was held on March 1 and 2 at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, aimed to unite all the religious forces of the city, Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish, in bringing about a public opinion which will support an adequate program of better housing.

The Committee which sponsored the Conference included prominent Protestant and Jewish leaders and a representative of the Catholic Archdiocese of New York.

A feature of the undertaking which captured unusual publicity was the erection of a typical slum dwelling in the nave of the Cathedral as an exhibit of the way in which many families have to live in New

Preceding the Conference, the Federation of Churches carried on a program of education by publishing in its bulletin, Metropolitan Church Life, a great body of factual material concerning housing conditions in New York. An important broadcast over WJZ on the subject was held on January 4. "Community Sunday" was promoted on January 31 as a means of stirring the membership of the churches to concerted action and in that connection a twenty-four-page booklet was distributed setting forth the most significant data concerning the housing and slum situation, conditions under which the Negroes of the city live, delinquency and crime, unemployment and public health.

The Conference created a Continuation Committee for carrying on the program in New York and has proposed that the Federal Council of Churches assume the responsibility of assisting other cities to provide for similar programs and invite the coöperation of Catholic and Jewish

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Germany's New Religion: The German Faith Movement

By WILHELM HAUER, KARL HEIM and KARL ADAM

Translated by T. S. K. Scott-Craig and R. E. Davies

Abingdon Press. \$1.50

It is not safe to assume that even the intelligent religious leaders of America understand what is taking place in the struggle of faiths in Hitler's Germany. Few of them have had the opportunity to read the chief works which reflect the kind of thinking which has led to the head-on clash between the way of Christ and the way of the new state.

While this little book does not profess to cover all angles of that controversy, it makes possible a quick grasp of certain very important elements. It describes the rise of the "German Faith Movement," which finds its voice chiefly through Professor Hauer, former Christian missionary to India, now burning with zeal to repudiate the Christian faith as a possible way for modern Germany. The historic Christian position, as set over against the new paganism, finds voice through Karl Heim, who is boldly critical of Hauer and most of what he stands for, and through Karl Adam, a leading Catholic theological writer, who keeps himself above the con-

The last book J. GRESHAM MACHEN

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Hauer seeks a German morality "which will rank higher than that of Christianity" by being based on blood and soil, throwing, out the concept of sin and redemption, repudiating the ethic of Jesus and adopting a nationalistic fatalism with practically no limits. "The general impression he (Jesus) makes does not suit our genius." Therefore to Hauer, as Heim points out, "Jesus is not only not the true way, but is actually the way of error . . . a German will normally, through Jesus, not only not find God, but actually lose him."

The numerous apologists for the religious thinking of Nazi leaders ought to read and ponder this little book.

H. S. L.

## Church and State on the European Continent

By ADOLF KELLER

Willett, Clark & Co. \$2.00

The widespread and growing interest in the ecumenical conference to be held at Oxford next July on "Church, Community and State" gives to this book a timely value of a high order. In fact, this is the most indispensable source of information which has thus far appeared concerning the conditions in Europe which make the Oxford Conference seem Providential.

By wide personal acquaintance in all European countries, by philosophical insight and by scholarly study of European religious and social life for the last twenty vears. Dr. Keller is preëminently qualified to be the recorder and the interpreter of the confused situation. He gives us an authoritative picture of the churches in relation to political movements in all European countries, with especial reference to Russia and Germany. He also analyzes what lies behind the revolutionary ideologies of both communism and fascism, and enables us to see what is at stake for Christianity in the present struggle.

No one who wants to have more than a superficial knowledge of the crisis in the relation of Church and State can afford to ignore this volume. Certainly no one should regard himself as qualified to attend the Oxford Conference who has not read, pondered and inwardly digested Dr. Keller's factual materials and incisive interpretation. S. M. C.

## The Second Seventy

By LYMAN P. POWELL

Macrae-Smith Co. \$1.50

Dr. Powell has given us a volume which will not only guide and cheer ministers and others who face the age of retirement, but also have a bearing upon the Supreme Court issue. Writing on his own seventieth anniversary, he describes the problem of retirement as he faced it, while still physically and mentally vigorous, as the rector of a church which was on the upgrade. Upon reflection he said-this is just the time to retire, "before people begin to pity or to make allowances," having also in mind the younger men coming along, awaiting succession. Seventy, however, is not to be thought of merely as an end but rather as a new beginning and a time to do the many things for which we have been too busy and which we can now see with a "more discerning eye." "If we elect to die in the harness we may miss the 'last of life, for which the first was made."

The author gives us a charming picture gallery of men and women whose "second seventy" was and is prolific in service, and who have kept on growing, from Cato acquiring Greek and Sophocles writing Oedipus at eighty, to Charles Evans Hughes writing his most important decisions at seventy-five and William Gillette acting at eighty-two.

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Dr. Powell does not forget those who are incapacitated at seventy. He urges more "planned consideration of the problem."

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O God, teach us that our strength is weakness unless it comes from Thee. May the song of the soul through the hours of this day be the glad refrain: "Sufficient is thine arm alone and our defense is sure." Amen.

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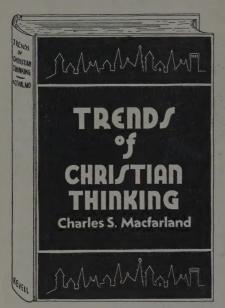
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